

The MARVELOUS STORY of MRS EDDY AND THE RELIGION SHE FOUNDED.

**Began in '66
With only
One pupil
and sect
Gradually
Grew to
700,000.**

JUST forty-one years ago the Christian Science Church had but one member—its founder—Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy Grover Eddy. Today it embraces 700,000, with a church property valued in the millions.

With growth and prosperity has come increased trouble and opposition, and today the venerable head of the church, and the religion itself, are menaced as never before in their history.

Arrayed against Mrs. Eddy is her own son, who, through the courts, is attacking the mental soundness of this woman of eighty-six years and the integrity of her business, financial and religious associates.

It was in 1866 that Mrs. Eddy first enunciated the principles of "Christian Science." She felt that she had finally discovered the real religion.

Her plan, in a nutshell, was merely to return to the beliefs and teachings of nearly 1,900 years ago. She believed that by so doing it would be possible to accomplish all things that were done during Christ's stay in the world.

Slowly, with one solitary pupil, Mrs. Eddy began the herculean task of converting the world. She taught that it was a revival or restoration of apostolic Christianity. Nothing more and nothing less. The start was made in Lynn, Mass., and for several years her task seemed hopeless. At times she was almost overcome with despair, but her indomitable will always came to her rescue and in the end she triumphed, the following of today testifies. The struggle she had to overcome the many obstacles thrown in her path are best told in her own words, which were given in a message to her church in 1902:

Mrs. Eddy's Fight.

"I suggest as a motto for every Christian Scientist—a living and life-giving spiritual shield against the Powers of Darkness—

'Great not like Caesar, stained with blood,
But only great as I am good.'

"The only genuine success possible for any Christian—and the only success I have ever achieved—has been accomplished on this solid basis. The remarkable growth and prosperity of Christian Science are its legitimate fruit. A successful end could never have been compassed on any other foundation—with truths so counter to the common convictions of mankind to present to the world. From the beginning of the great battle every forward

step has been met not by mankind, but by a kind of men) with mockery, envy, rivalry, and falsehood—as achievement after achievement has been blazoned on the forefront of the world, and recorded in heaven. The popular philosophies and religions have offered me neither favor nor protection in the great struggle. Therefore, I ask: What has shielded and prospered pre-eminently our great cause, but the outstretched arm of Infinite Love? This pregnant question, answered frankly and honestly, should forever silence all private criticisms, all unjust public aspersions, and afford an open field and fair play.

"In the eighties, anonymous letters mailed to me contained threats to blow up the hall where I preached; yet I never lost my faith in God; and neither informed the police of these letters nor sought the protection of the laws of my country. I leaned on God, and was safe."

Congregations Number 900.

Today the 900 or more congregations and the 150 or more church edifices, with its remarkable following, is a mute witness that she succeeded in the end. Some of the edifices are among the finest in the world. The building in Boston is considered without an equal on the globe, and it is unquestionably the

MRS. MARY BAKER GLÖVER EDDY.

costliest, \$2,000,000 being spent in erecting it. New York has an edifice that cost \$1,250,000, and throughout the country there are several that have cost \$100,000 and more.

Boston, with her 40,000 followers, leads in the number of believers in Christian Science. Then follows New York, Chicago, and Philadelphia. Washington has several large congregations, and every city of any size has one or more.

In reply to a criticism of the belief by Dr. John W. Churchman, Alfred Farlow explained the belief of Scientists in the following words:

How They Heal.

"It is rather presumptuous for one who is not a practical Scientist to assume to declare how a Christian Scientist heals. It is certain that no one can know so well what is employed in a given case as the

Scientist himself through whom the results are produced. He is as clear in his understanding of what he has done to secure a given result as the mathematician, and he surely should be allowed to speak for himself in this regard.

"Witnessing the precipitation of red oxide of mercury in a glass, one ignorant of the chemical process by which the compound is produced might believe the phenomenon to be merely the settling of a red sediment, because it so appears. Such an one would be quite as intelligent in his judgment as the spectator who insists that Christian Science healing is effected by the human will, when, in fact, it is accomplished through the Divine power. It is quite common for one to interpret a case of mental healing; and our critic could with equal pro-

**Personality
of woman
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All with
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priety claim that Jesus and the apostles healed by mere human will, for the material phenomena resultant from their works were similar in appearance to those resulting from the operation of human will.

"That Christian Science is properly estimating human ills, and dealing with them intelligently, is evidenced by the remarkable success of its practitioners; and it is therefore incorrect to say that Christian Science proposes to dispose of sin by merely denying its existence, except when denial is understood to mean a refusal longer to think of or act it.

"By conduct consistent with the spiritual reality of existence, one should so depart from material practices and indulgences as to outgrow the possibility of sickness, for it is not our spirituality but our materiality which sins, and, as a penalty, suffers. It is the mission of this Science to make its adherents too good to be sick. It must be conceded that the good man is on the road to health and harmony, though he may not have found it, while the evil doer is on the road to destruction, though he may not have reached it."

Growth In England.

Christian Science first became prominent in England through its adoption by the Earl of Dunmore and his wife, the countess. Both claimed to be completely cured of a so-called incurable disease, and they immediately became "readers" in the new cause. Their alliance with the religion gave it a decided impetus in Great Britain. Both the earl and countess are active workers in Christian Science today.

Lady Victoria Murray, daughter of the Earl and Countess of Dunmore, is also an active Christian Science worker. She has just succeeded in opening a beautiful Christian Science Church in Manchester, after two years' work. Lady Victoria for nine months preached "the science" in a warehouse in Manchester, in the heart of the business district, where merchants and others dropped in at noon.

Now, owing to Lady Victoria's energy, Manchester has the first Christian Science Church outside of London. It is free of debt.

For four years Lady Victoria conducted services in Manchester, aided now and then by Lord and Lady Dunmore.

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